



SWARC NEWS

Notes from K7RLH

The Annual Auction Meeting took place on February 1st with good attendance, but very little to bid for. Look for more about the program further down in this newsletter. Raffle tickets for two \$250.00 gift cards were distributed to a few members and I will continue to hand them out in the near future. If you reach out to me, I will meet you somewhere for the handoff. The raffle will be drawn at 6:00 pm on June 24th, the Saturday of the Field Day weekend.

We ask you to keep the following in your thoughts and prayers:

Gary, KO4LQX, Kenny, KJ4CVK, Velda, K4VJC, Mike, KD4MC, and Steve, KA0GMY.

Steve, KA0GMY, had his second vascular surgery but fell on the 31st of January, with a trip to the hospital, so remember him, Steve Jr., and Miss Gloria as well (particularly).

As I reported, Gary Plante, KO4LQX, had a recurrence of cancer in the larynx and won't know what treatment regimen will be specified until he has an endoscopic procedure to determine if the lymph nodes are involved, in which case he will have both radiation and chemotherapy. Keep sending those prayers up for him.

Velda, K4VJC, continues to make improvement; see Mike's posts on FB for more up to date info as he posts regularly. Velda's continued recovery is a testament to the power of our prayers.

Look for other news and info in the body of the newsletter.

SWARC de K7RLH

Notes from KO4ZFO

Our April meeting will be the annual Skywarn refresher; the March meeting agenda will be firmed up in the next few days.

Also, don't forget we are taking pre-orders for our club T-shirts. If you plan to order any, please email me sizes and quantities. I would like to have all pre-orders in by March 1st. Money for T-shirts will be collected when the shirts are delivered. I will be sending more information later this month with the final details, price and hopefully a picture of the final design. Estimated price per shirt \$12-15 for short sleeve. If anyone is interested in long sleeve, please make note of that in your request. I will be taking orders after the March meeting so pay attention to further email info from me later this month.

Thanks again all!

73

KO4ZFO

SWARC 1 February 2023 Meeting Recap

Since we currently have no club secretary, here is a recap of the meeting.

There was lasagna and Miss Penny's meatloaf, mashed potatoes, pasta salad and desserts enjoyed by the attendees listed below.

The meeting opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by introductions around the room and on Zoom and Christy's treasurer report.

In-Person Attendees included:

Richard Hall (K7RLH), Bill Blomgren (KK4QDZ), Rodney Warren (KO4ZFO), Al Crawford (WA4TCJ), guest Rich Gehle (N4DPQ), Brian Knox (KK4BK), Dave Krum (NW3U) and Penny, Christy Fernandini (KJ4AEO), Mike Ramsey (KD4OKR), Bernie Jones (N4BAJ), John P. (WB4UFO), John Ostrander (KM4EZK), Don Nicholson (KN4OEY), Paul Nicholson (KN4NGI), Mike Gaither (K4MWG) and guests Nancy Torborg (KB2TNR) the RARSfest chair, and Tadd Torborg (KA2DEW).

Zoom Attendees included:

Steve Mowels (KA0GMY), Steve Rhudy (KY4SLR), and Danny Hampton (K4ITL) by phone.

Old/Unfinished Business

The revision to the Constitution is not deemed necessary at this time due to increased participation by the full members of the club.

We only have one key to the radio room, which is kept in the lock box by the door. Members wishing to access the radio room should contact one of the officers for the key box combination.

New Business

None.

Food for Thought

Left over from last year: ordering name tags for new members and perhaps a new t-shirt with SWARC logo and no specific event, thus not dating the shirt. Al Crawford (WA4TCJ) has determined that name tags will cost about \$11.00 which includes shipping cost. Please contact Al directly at wa4tcj@juno.com if you wish to obtain a name tag—be sure to give him your name and call sign.

Presentation Topic (Annual Auction)

As I alluded to before, there was a dearth of available equipment for folks to bid on, however, the few items offered for sale merited some very active bidding. AS a reminder, SWARC will have a flea market table at the upcoming RARSfest so come and sell what you didn't bring to our auction and hopefully dispose of said redundant gear on April 8th when we all gather for this event.

RARSfest Chair, Nancy Torborg (KB2TNR), gave short spiel inviting everyone to plan for a good event this year with real radio vendors and, of course, the ubiquitous flea market that is a part of any good ham gathering.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Christy Fernandini reported no change in the finances during January. She did pick up one check for member renewals on her way to the meeting. Balance remains at \$1,443.64.

MEMBERSHIP

You can bring a check or cash for dues to the next meeting or mail them to the club PO box and Christy will let me know she has received them. Also, you can now renew somewhat online by contacting Christy and giving her the appropriate credit card info for the 'Square' account. Christy's email is christyfernandini@outlook.com

Makes checks payable to South Wake ARC.

Send it to South Wake ARC – PO Box 1565 – Fuquay Varina, NC 27526

NET REPORT

SWARC Group – January 2023

We have three individuals who can be referred to as net check in champs for January; they are Bill, KK4QDZ, Richard, K7RLH, and Al, WA3JJG. The monthly total of check-ins was 248! Note that **not** all net controls record their counts so numbers could be higher than recorded.

- Saturday and Sunday evenings will be called by KT4JR & K7RLH
- KO4ZFO will call Monday evenings
- KA0GMY will call Tuesday evenings (backup is K7RLH)
- KK4BK will call Wednesday evenings except on meeting nights
- KJ4CVK will call Thursday evenings
- Fridays will continue to be called by NC4MP
- And we need backups – JUST BECAUSE.

Please contact Richard Hall, K7RLH, if you are interested in calling one or more nets.

Public Service

Check the HPSNC.org web site often for Public Service opportunities. The public service season is upon us and events need volunteers. You may also get to public service events on the RARS website.

Dave Krum (NW3U), announced that the public service season is now ‘open’ for 2023 with upcoming events beginning in March with ‘Odyssey of the Mind’ on March 4th and 25th and also the Walk MS event on March 25th. Other events will follow throughout the remainder of the year.

SWARC Mission Statement

South Wake ARC's primary purpose is to further the Amateur Radio Service through programs, activities, and education, in order to promote the radio knowledge, fraternalism and individual operating efficiency of its members. Further, it shall be our purpose to support the welfare of our community through public service including radio communications for emergency situations and public events, and through providing information, training, and assistance to individuals or organizations with an interest in the Amateur Radio Service.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Richard Hall--K7RLH

Vice President

Rodney Warren—KO4ZFO

Secretary

Vacant

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Christy Fernandini - KJ4AEO

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Al Crawford – WA4TCJ

Member-At-Large

Bernie Jones – N4BAJ

Member-At-Large

Mike Gaither –
K4MWG

Member-At-Large

Brian Knox--KK4BK

Membership Chair

Steve Suzanne—
WB4SMS

Appointed Positions

NET MANAGER

Kenny Souther-KJ4CVK

Special Events Director

Gino Fernandini –KI4YXO

Public Service Director

David Krum – NW3U

LINKS (if you have other links you want added then send them to me)

PRN

A Wide Area Digital Amateur Radio Network

www.ncprn.net

GigaParts

www.gigaparts.com

QRZ

www.qrz.com

Ham Radio Outlet HRO

www.hamradio.com

Raleigh Amateur Radio Society RARS

www.rars.org

Johnson Amateur Radio Society JARS

www.jars.net

South Wake Amateur Radio Club SWARC

www.southwakearc.com

Carolina 440 Network

www.carolina440.net

_North Carolina Packet

www.ncpacket.com

_TARPN (Terrestrial Amateur Packet Radio Net)

www.tarpn.net

Useful Ham Info

www.torborg.com/a

_Car Radio Development History

<https://www.titlemax.com/articles/the-history-of-the-car-radio/>

ARRL News

Amateur Radio on the International Space Station Contacts two US Schools

Astronauts onboard the International Space Station (ISS) were busy the last week of January making contacts with two schools using amateur radio.

The [Amateur Radio on the International Space Station](#) (ARISS) program arranged contacts with Brentwood Magnet Elementary School in Raleigh, North Carolina, and Norwich Free Academy (NFA) located in Norwich, Connecticut.

On January 26, 2023, nearly 400 students at Brentwood Magnet Elementary School filled the gymnasium to listen to astronaut Koichi Wakata answer questions about his experience on the ISS. Wakata told students he loves being in space but is looking forward to taking a shower when he returns in March.

He also told the students that it's not scary in space and encouraged them to pursue careers in science and engineering.

Then on January 30, 2023, astronaut Dr. Josh Cassada contacted students at NFA. During his 10-minute contact, Cassada shared with students how his career as a Navy Test Pilot helped him become an astronaut. "Do the things you love," Cassada told the students. During the remainder of the contact, Cassada talked about cargo vehicles making frequent trips to resupply the ISS and how his daily routine is different every day, including working weekends.

The NFA Amateur Radio and Engineering Club, W1HLO, members and advisors installed an amateur radio satellite ground station on the NFA campus in 2023, thanks to an Amateur Radio Digital Communications (ARDC) grant, which helped make the contact with the ISS possible.

ARISS is a unique STEM educational program which inspires young people to develop knowledge and skills through their participation in space science and amateur radio. ARISS conducts 60 - 80 of these special amateur radio contacts each year between students around the globe and crew members with ham radio licenses aboard the ISS.

ARISS is a cooperative venture of international amateur radio societies and the space agencies that support the ISS. In the US, participating organizations include from NASA's Space Communications and Navigation program (SCaN), the ISS National Lab - Space Station Explorers, [ARRL The National Association for Amateur Radio](#)®, and AMSAT.





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World Radio Day Special Transmission

In honor of World Radio Day, February 13, 2023, radio station SAQ in Grimeton, Sweden, and amateur radio station SK6SAQ, are scheduled to be on the air to send out a peace message to the world, using the unique 1924 200 kW Alexanderson alternator on 17.2 kHz CW.

Test and tuning transmissions will begin approximately at 13:00 CET (12:00 UTC) and SAQ will be on the air for 20 - 30 minutes. Startup and tuning of the Alexanderson alternator will begin at 15:30 CET (14:30 UTC) and transmission of the peace message from SAQ will start at 16:00 CET (15:00 UTC).

SK6SAQ has picked a set of unique frequencies with a "connection" to SAQ's transmission frequency on 17.2 kHz, and will be QRV between 10:00 CET (09:00 UTC) and 17:00 CET (16:00 UTC) on the following frequencies:

- 3517.2 kHz CW
- 7017.2 kHz CW
- 14017.2 kHz CW
- 3755 kHz SSB
- 7140 kHz SSB



The Grimeton building site in Sweden, contains the Alexanderson alternator, which was built in 1924.

QSL cards will be available and there will be live coverage on [YouTube](#).

For more information about the World Radio Day event and SAQ Grimeton visit their [website](#).

The Virginia QSO Party (VQP) and Virginia's Volunteers On the Air (VOTA) Activation of W1AW/4 are set for the weekend of March 18 - 19, 2023. Virginia amateur radio operators will, at the same time, celebrate the contributions of thousands of ARRL volunteers during Virginia's activation of the Volunteers On the Air event by contacting W1AW/4 during the VQP. In fact, W1AW/4 will be active from March 15 - 21, 2023. VQP planners are working to activate in some of the rare counties to help increase the chances of earning a Worked all VA Counties award. VQP Rules are at: https://www.qsl.net/sterling/VA_QSO_Party/2023_VQP/2023_VAQP_Rules.pdf.

ARRL VOTA rules are at: <http://www.arrl.org/volunteers-on-the-air>.

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**LOVE IS
ON THE AIR**

Tad Cook, K7RA, of Seattle, Washington, reports for this week's ARRL Propagation Bulletin:



Solar disk image taken February 2, 2023, courtesy of NASA

For this week's ARRL
Propagation Bulletin
ARLP005:

SDO/HMI.

Solar activity softened again this week, with average daily sunspot numbers changing from 162 to 80.7, and solar flux from 198.9 to 139.5.

This is quite a dramatic shift from the excitement of a couple of weeks ago. To review, average weekly sunspot numbers from the first bulletin of 2023 went from 97 to 135.9, 173.4, and 162. Average weekly solar flux went from 157.8 to 181.2, 221.8, and 198.9.

This variability is expected. Soon, perhaps in the next solar rotation, activity will rise again. The graphs we see of smoothed sunspot numbers are smooth because the numbers are averaged over a whole year.

Geomagnetic numbers barely changed at all, with planetary A index changing only from 8.1 to 7.9. The middle latitude numbers did not change at all, 5.9 last week and 5.9 this week.

Predicted solar flux is 135 on February 2; 140 on February 3 - 5; 145 on February 6; 150 on February 7 - 9; 155 on February 10 - 13; 150 on February 14 - 16; 145 on February 17; 140 on February 18 - 19; 135 on February 20; 130 on February 21 - 23; 125 on February 24 - 25; 140 on February 26 - 27; 135 on February 28 - March 4, and 140 and 145 on March 5 - 6.

Predicted planetary A index is 5 on February 2 - 5; 8 on February 6 - 9; 12, 5, 8, and 8 on February 10 - 13; 5 on February 14 - 17; 8, 7, 5, and 5 on February 18 - 21; 10 on February 22 - 24; 5 on February 25 - 27; 15, 10, and 8 on February 28 to March 2, and 5 on March 3 - 5.

In Friday's bulletin, we will feature auroral propagation and unusual propagation from North America to Scandinavia on 10 meters.

Sunspot numbers for January 26 through February 1, 2023, were 104, 84, 76, 80, 67, 65, and 89, with a mean of 80.7. The 10.7 -centimeter flux was 150.6, 144.9, 137.6, 137, 135.9, 137, and 133.5, with a mean of 139.5. Estimated planetary A indices were 11, 9, 10, 5, 5, 9, and 6, with a mean of 7.9. Middle latitude A index was 9, 6, 8, 5, 4, 6, and 3, with a mean of 5.9.

Send your tips, questions, or comments to k7ra@arrl.net.

A comprehensive K7RA Solar Update is posted Fridays on the ARRL website. For more information concerning radio propagation, [visit](#) the ARRL Technical Information Service, [read](#) "What the Numbers Mean..." and [check out](#) the Propagation Page of Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA.

A propagation bulletin [archive](#) is available. For customizable propagation charts, visit the [VOACAP Online for Ham Radio](#) website.

[Share](#) your reports and observations.

A weekly, full report is posted on [ARRL News](#).



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Just Ahead in Radiosport

Year-long -- [ARRL Volunteers On the Air](#) (VOTA). See also the State Activations Schedule for weekly [W1AW Portable Operations](#) including these:

- February 1 - 7 -- South Carolina, W1AW/4
- February 1 - 7 -- South Dakota, W1AW/0
- February 8 - 14 -- Hawaii, W1AW/KH6
- February 8 - 14 -- Georgia, W1AW/4

Upcoming Contests

- February 4 - 5 -- Vermont QSO Party (CW, phone, digital)
- February 4 - 5 -- 10-10 International Winter Contest, SSB (phone)
- February 4 -- EurAsia HF Championship (CW, phone)
- February 4 - 5 -- F9AA Cup, CW (CW)
- February 4 - 5 -- Mexico RTTY International Contest (digital)
- February 4 -- Minnesota QSO Party (CW, phone, digital)
- February 4 -- FYBO Winter QRP Sprint (CW, phone, digital)
- February 4 -- AGCW Straight Key Party (CW)
- February 4 - 5 -- British Columbia QSO Party (CW, phone)
- February 4 - 5 -- European Union DX Contest (CW, phone)
- February 4 - 5 -- North American Sprint, CW (CW)
- February 6 -- OK1WC Memorial (MWC) (CW)
- February 6 -- RSGB 80-Meter Club Championship, SSB (phone)
- February 7 -- ARS Spartan Sprint (CW)
- February 8 -- NAQCC CW Sprint (CW)

Visit the [ARRL Contest Calendar](#) for more events and information.



AMERITRON



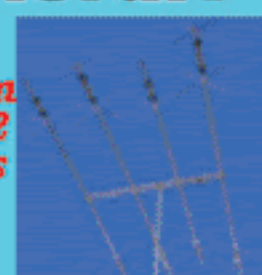
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Upcoming Section, State, and Division Conventions

- February 10 - 12 | [Orlando HamCation](#), hosting the ARRL Southeastern Division Convention, Orlando, Florida
- February 17 - 18 | [LCARC Winter-Fest](#), ARRL Arkansas State Convention, Hoxie, Arkansas
- February 25 | [HAM-CON](#), hosting the ARRL Vermont State Convention, Colchester, Vermont
- March 3 - 4 | [BirmingHamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Alabama Section Convention, Trussville, Alabama
- March 3 - 4 | [Greater Houston HamFest](#), hosting the ARRL Texas State Convention, Rosenberg, Texas
- March 18 | [MARC St. Patricks Day Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Texas Section, Midland, Texas
- March 18 | [Charleston Area Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL West Virginia Section Convention, Charleston, West Virginia
- March 24 - 25 | [ARRL Maine State Convention and Hamfest](#), Lewiston, Maine
- March 25 - 26 | [QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo](#) (online)
- April 7 - 8 | [Green Country Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL Oklahoma Section Convention, Claremore, Oklahoma
- April 8 | [Raleigh Hamfest](#), hosting the ARRL North Carolina State Convention, Raleigh, North Carolina

Search the [ARRL Hamfest and Convention Database](#) to find events in your area.

Have News for ARRL?

Submissions for the ARRL Letter and ARRL News can be sent to news@arrl.org. -- John E. Ross, KD8IDJ, ARRL News [Editor](#)

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